Agenda Date: 10/22/03 Agenda Item: IIIB



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

CABLE TELEVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF

COMCAST CABLEVISION OF SOUTH

JERSEY, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF

APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO CONSTRUCT,)

OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE

TELEVISION SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE

BOROUGH OF CHESILHURST, COUNTY OF)

CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO

AUTOMATIC RENEWAL
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

DOCKET NO. CE03010011

SERVICE LIST ATTACHED

BY THE BOARD:

On January 22, 1988, the Board granted Cable TV Fund 14-A, Ltd. d/b/a Jones Intercable ("Jones"), a Certificate of Approval in Docket No. CE87040302 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Borough of Chesilhurst ("Borough"). On December 19, 1996, the Board approved the transfer the Certificate of Approval from Jones to Lenfest Atlantic ("Lenfest"), in Docket No. CM96050416. On January 18, 2000, the Board approved Lenfest becoming a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Comcast Corporation in Docket No. CM99110855. Subsequently, on September 13, 2000, Lenfest's name was formally changed to Comcast Cablevision of South Jersey, Inc. ("Petitioner"). The Petitioner is now known as Comcast of South Jersey, Inc. Although the Petitioner's above referenced Certificate expired on January 22, 2003, it is authorized to

continue to provide cable television service to the Borough pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25, pending disposition of proceedings regarding the renewal of its Certificate of Approval.

On January 8, 2003, the Petitioner filed with the Board for Automatic Renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, -19 and -25 and N.J.A.C. 14:17-6.9 and 14:18-13.6. The filing indicates that the Borough had adopted an ordinance on March 11, 1987, granting renewal municipal consent to the Petitioner's predecessor to provide a term of fifteen years with an automatic renewal term of ten years.

The Board has reviewed the petition for an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval and the application filed therein by the Petitioner. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> the following:

- 1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Certificate of Approval.
- 2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate and proper service.
- 3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
- 4. The franchise renewal period as stated in the ordinance is ten years. The Board finds this period to be of reasonable duration.
- 5. The Petitioner shall utilize the line extension policy ("LEP") attached to the Certificate (Appendix "I"). The minimum homes per mile ("HPM") figure is 35.
- 6. The Petitioner's rates shall be regulated and tariffs shall be filed for all services, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, the Board and the Office of Cable Television. The Petitioner shall maintain informational tariffs for unregulated service rates, and promptly file any revisions thereto.
- 7. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Borough. In this case, it is the Borough Clerk. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with any applicable rules.
- 8. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The Petitioner currently maintains a local office located at 1 Cable TV Lane in Sicklerville (Winslow Township, New Jersey).
- 9. The franchise fee to be paid to the Borough is specified to be 2% of the Petitioner's gross revenues from all recurring charges in the nature of subscription fees paid by subscribers for its cable television reception service in the Borough. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed 2% of Petitioner's

gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.

- 10. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational, and governmental access equipment and facilities as described in the application. The Petitioner shall provide one systemwide educational and governmental access channel.
- 11. The Petitioner shall provide the Borough with the standard installation and one outlet of basic cable service to all qualified municipal facilities, schools and libraries, free of charge. Additional outlets and services shall be paid for at the regular tariffed rates by the institution requesting those services.

Based upon these findings, the Board <u>HEREBY CONCLUDES</u> that, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-17(a) and 28(c), the Petitioner has the municipal consent necessary to support the petition, that such consent and issuance thereof are in conformity with the requirements of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-1 <u>et seq.</u>, that the Petitioner has complied or is ready to comply with all applicable rules and regulations imposed by or pursuant to State and federal law as preconditions for engaging in the proposed cable television operations, that the Petitioner has sufficient financial and technical capacity, meets the legal, character and other qualifications necessary to construct, maintain and operate the necessary installations, lines and equipment, and is capable of providing the proposed service in a safe, adequate and proper manner.

Therefore, the Petitioner is <u>HEREBY ISSUED</u> this Renewal Certificate of Approval as evidence of Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Borough.

This Certificate is subject to all applicable State and federal laws, the rules and regulations of the Office of Cable Television, and any such lawful terms, conditions and limitations as currently exist or may hereafter be attached to the exercise of the privileges granted herein. The Petitioner shall adhere to the operating standards set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's rules and regulations, 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> §76.1 <u>et seq.</u> including but not limited to, the technical standards 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> §76.601 through §76.630. Any modifications to the provisions thereof shall be incorporated into this Certificate.

Failure to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and orders of the Board or the Office of Cable Television and/or the terms, conditions and limitations set forth herein may constitute sufficient grounds for the suspension or revocation of this Certificate.

This Renewal Certificate is issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office of Cable Television pursuant to the authority contained in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

This Certificate shall expire January 22, 2013.

SECRETARY

DATED:	October 23, 2003		BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:
		(signed)	
		JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT	
(signed)			(signed)
FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER			CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER
(sigı	ned)		(signed)
CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER			JACK ALTER COMMISSIONER
ATTEST:			
(sigi	ned)		
KRI	STI 1770		

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